



## EIDD – DESIGN FOR ALL EUROPE

ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH DESIGN FOR ALL

**1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly  
Tallinn  
28 May 2011**

### Minutes

#### 1. Opening and welcome of participants, apologies for absence

The President, Finn Petrén declared the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly open at 10:30 am and welcomed the participants. Apologies for absence were noted.

#### Present

Finn Petrén	EIDD President	Sweden
Avril Accolla	EIDD Vice-President	Italy
Rama Gheerawo	EIDD Vice-President Administration	UK
Pete Kercher	EIDD Ambassador	Italy
Francesc Aragall	Design for All Foundation	Spain
Onny Eikhaug	Norwegian Design Council	Norway
Veronica Egger	Design Austria	Austria
Guida Faria	APDR	Portugal
Josyane Franc	Cité Du Design	France
Ewa Golebiowska	Silesian Castle of Art and Enterprise	Poland
Lubomira Trojan	Silesian Castle of Art and Enterprise	Poland
Ilona Gurjanova	Estonian Association of Designers	Estonia
Markus Haas	Freiraum	Austria
Pavol Korcek	Centre of Excellence in Design for All	Slovakia
Maria Samova	Centre of Excellence in Design for All	Slovakia
Chris Ramsden	Chartered Society of Designers	UK
Sanna Simola	Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo	Finland
Daina Vitolina	Design Information Centre	Latvia

#### In attendance

Pepetto di Bucchianico	IDEA Dept. Univ. of Chieti-Pescara	Italy
Nora de Busturia	Creativity Zentrum, Bilbao	Spain
David Zanoletty Garcia	Fundacion Once	Spain
Ricardo Garcia	Fundacion Once	Spain
Antonio Jesus Ingelmo Sierra	Fundacion Once	Spain
Karolina Juzwa	Region of Silesia Marshall's Office	Poland

#### 2. Apologies for absence

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Proxy</b>
Finn Aslaksen	EIDD Norway	Norway	Onny Eikhaug
Karin Bendixen	Design for Alle.dk	Denmark	Francesc Aragall
Carlo Branzaglia	DfA Italia	Italy	Pete Kercher
Alexander Bogdanovic	CRID	Serbia	Pete Kercher
Vesna Bogdanovic	CRID	Serbia	
Severin Filek	Design Austria	Austria	Veronika Egger
Jesus Hernandez Galan	EIDD Special Projects Officer, Fundacion Once	Spain	David Zanoletty Garcia
Paul Hogan	President Emeritus	Ireland	Finn Petrén
Rob Huisman	BNO, Association of Dutch Designers	The Netherlands	Finn Petrén
Marit Jensen	EIDD Sweden	Sweden	Finn Petrén
Beata Lupinska	Common Space Association	Poland	Pete Kercher
Peter Neumann	EDAD	Germany	Francesc Aragall
Cearbhall O'Meadhra	Director at Large EDF relations	Ireland	Finn Petrén
Neslihan Sik	TAG Platform	Turkey	Pete Kercher

## **2. Agenda**

Finn Petrén proposed the agenda with the following additions from assembled members:

- 7.1.4 Application for membership: Fundacion Once
- 7.2.4 Recognition as National Co-ordination Centre: EDAD
- 7.2.5 Recognition as National Co-ordination Centre: Fundacion Once
- 7.2.6 Recognition as National Co-ordination Centre: Chartered Society of Designers
- 7.3 Appointment of Honorary Members
- 8 New structure – new directions

Subject to these amendments, the agenda was approved unanimously.

## **3. Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> EGM in Riga**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary General Meeting, held in Riga on 9 October 2010. Chris Ramsden proposed approval of the minutes and Pete Kercher seconded. They were accepted as a true and faithful recording of proceedings.

## **4. President's Address**

The President, Finn Petrén, presented the President's Report. This included a tribute to Michal Ozmin for his extraordinary contribution to EIDD. The President talked about the past, present and future of the organisation and the need for new administration. This report is appended to these Minutes (Appendix 1).

Pete Kercher proposed approval of the President's report and Chris Ramsden seconded. They were accepted into the minutes by the assembled members.

Francesc Aragall suggested that the assembled members should introduce themselves as there were new people present at the meeting.

## **5. Annual Financial Report**

### **5.1 Appointment of the Auditors**

Finn Petrén presented the Annual Financial Report noting that there was currently a net surplus instead of deficit. This report is appended to these Minutes. (See Appendix 2)

Francesc Aragall requested the inclusion of the accounts for the DfA Curriculum project.

Pete Kercher requested to sign the report as the counter-signatory to the bank account.

Pete Kercher proposed approval of the Annual Financial Report and Chris Ramsden seconded. They were accepted into the minutes by the assembled members.

Chris Ramsden proposed that the current auditor, Pat Clarke, continues in their position and Pete Kercher seconded. The motion was carried.

## **6. Reports**

### **6.1 Reports from Directors at Large with special assignments**

Pete Kercher presented the Ambassador's Report outlining his activities on behalf of EIDD. This report is appended to these Minutes (Appendix 3).

Francesc Aragall requested that the Ambassador communicates with members wherever possible to update on his trips. Pete directed members to Facebook and LinkedIn where he updates his trips. Finn Petrén encouraged full transparency so that trips could be co-ordinated with local members where possible.

Finn Petrén presented a report from Cearbhall O'Meadhra, Ireland. This report is appended to these Minutes (Appendix 4).

### **6.2 Reports from Member Organisations**

The following member organisations presented:

CSD, Ornamo, Norwegian Design Council, CEDA Bratislava, Zamek Cieszyn, Design for All Italia, Design Austria, Fundação Liga, Cité du Design St-Etienne, Design for All Sverige, Helen Hamlyn Centre, Estonian Association of Designers, Design for All Foundation.

## **7. Applications**

### **7.1 Applications for Membership**

Application for memberships were presented as follows:

#### **7.1.1 TAG Platform, Istanbul (Turkey)**

Finn gave a short presentation of the work of the TAG Platform.

Pete Kercher proposed a motion to accept their application for membership, Avril Accolla seconded. TAG Platform was unanimously approved and welcomed as a new Turkish Member Organisation of EIDD.

### 7.1.2 IDEA Department, University of Chieti-Pescara (Italy)

Pepetto di Bucchianico gave a short presentation on the design, engineering and architecture activities at the IDEA Department, University of Chieti-Pescara. Veronika Egger proposed a motion to accept their application for membership, Sanna Simola seconded. The IDEA Department, University of Chieti-Pescara was unanimously approved and welcomed as a new Italian Member Organisation of EIDD.

### 7.1.3 Creativity Zentrum, Bilbao (Spain)

Nora de Busturia gave a short introduction to the activities of Creativity Zentrum. Pete Kercher proposed a motion to accept their application for membership, Francesc Aragall seconded. Creativity Zentrum was unanimously approved and welcomed as a new Spanish Member Organisation of EIDD.

### 7.1.4 Fundacion Once (Spain)

Ricardo Garcia gave an overview of the work of the Fundacion Once. Francesc Aragall proposed a motion to accept their application for membership, Rama Gheerawo seconded. Fundacion Once was unanimously approved and welcomed as a new Spanish Member Organisation of EIDD.

## **7.2 Applications from members for recognition as National Co-ordination Centres**

Pete Kercher presented Design for All Italia's application to become the National Co-ordination Centre for Italy. Finn Petren talked about the need to discuss applications at a national level before bring them to the General Assembly for approval.

### 7.2.1 Design for All Italia

Pete Kercher proposed a motion that Design for All Italia becomes the National Co-ordination Centre for Italy, Sanna Simola seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

### 7.2.2 Design for All Sverige

Finn Petren proposed a motion that Design for All Sverige becomes the National Co-ordination Centre for Sweden, Markus Haas seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

### 7.2.3 Design for Alle.dk

Pete Kercher proposed a motion that Design for Alle.dk becomes the National Co-ordination Centre for Denmark, Francesc Aragall seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

### 7.2.4 EDAD

Francesc Aragall proposed a motion that EDAD becomes the National Co-ordination Centre for Germany, Pete Kercher seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

### 7.2.5 Fundacion Once

David Zanoletty Garcia proposed a motion that Fundacion Once becomes the National Co-ordination Centre for Spain, Francesc Aragall seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

## 7.2.6 Chartered Society of Designers

Chris Ramsden withdrew the application for the Chartered Society of Designers pending further discussion at national level.

## 7.3 Appointment of Honorary Members

Finn Petren proposed that Peter Kercher be appointed an honorary member of EIDD, Francesc Aragall seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the assembled members.

## 8. New structure – new directions?

### 8.1 Member's discussion

- Rama Gheerawo opened by outlining points for discussion including: delivering value to both older and newer members, that members should know what they are getting from EIDD and how they can contribute, the need for diversity in the organisation, and more clarity in the election.
- Francesc Aragall noted that some members have been left behind as the organisation has expanded. The mission is clear, but how are we delivering it. He questioned the need for a large Executive and whether people should serve more than four years in office. He encouraged more open collaboration.
- Guida Faria talked about the need for more diversity within the organisation and that we work at different levels – academic, political and by doing practical projects.
- Pete Kercher stated that nomenclature and semantics are important. Universal Design has a different application in the US, UK and Norway in contrast to other European countries. He was not worried about having a larger executive.
- Ricardo Garcia said that in terms of diversity, we do need people with special needs. EIDD should focus on both government and civic society.
- Francesc Aragall noted that there may be legal implications for nomenclature, but EIDD is not a legal organisation. The Executive is elected to run the organisation, not to dictate the concept of Design for All. The elections should be more horizontal and need to be reconsidered.
- Onny Eikhaug stated that the rules and systems of governance are complicated. We need to simplify them as agreed in Riga. The elections happened very late. We should recognise the diversity of knowledge and maturity. We have a common aim and should acknowledge each member's contribution.
- Josyane Franc asked two questions. What is the purpose of EIDD? What does it offer its members? She called for a clarification of terminology. She said that we need to change with the times.
- Ewa Golebiowska stated that EIDD had brought good connections and information to her efforts in Poland. We have many questions as members and we have to focus on who we are and what we get from EIDD.
- Markus Haas was in favour of still having a board of directors. He noted that the costs of travelling for a large Executive could be prohibitive.
- Chris Ramsden talked about net takers versus net givers, saying that we should all give to the organisation and not expect or demand in return. An Executive is needed that delivers for its members. We are leaking good will and passion. He wanted to see the organisation become more active.
- Daina Vitolina said that discussing nomenclature is not important to the wider world. We need to look at how we move forward at a strategic level.

- Pete Kercher replied that the abolition of board was to give more time to content during the meetings. We have a strategic plan that can help us look to the future.
- Rama Gheerawo asked that we do more to ensure growth and new members as well as nourishing current members. We are at a crossroads as we have grown in numbers.
- Onny Eikhaug said that it was a challenge for the new Executive to ensure a more equal process around the election and have more direct communication generally.
- Francesc Aragall stressed that there should be better communication between members.
- Finn Petren noted that EIDD is a volunteer organisation. He expressed some frustration at the content of the discussion but found it healthy that all points of view had been presented. In conclusion, he was convinced that the organisation was now in a good position to move forward.

## **9. Elections of the Executive Board**

### 9.1 Election of President

All nominations received were for Finn Petrán.

There were no other nominations at the meeting.

Finn Petrán accepted the nomination and was re-elected.

(19 in favour, 7 abstentions)

### 9.2 Election of Vice-President

Avril Accola and Chris Ramsden were nominated. There were no other nominations at the meeting.

Chris Ramsden accepted the nomination and Avril Accola declined.

Chris Ramsden was unanimously elected.

### 9.3 Election of Vice-President Administration

Ewa Golebiowska and Rama Gheerawo were nominated. There were no other nominations at the meeting.

Ewa Golebiowska accepted the nomination and Rama Gheerawo declined.

Ewa Golebiowska was elected. (1 abstention)

### 9.4 Election of Vice-President Finances

Daina Vitolina and Alexander Bogdanovic were nominated. There were no other nominations at the meeting.

Daina Vitolina accepted the nomination and Alexander Bogdanovic declined.

Daina Vitolina was elected. (1 abstention)

### 9.5 Election of additional Officers

Pete Kercher was proposed as Ambassador. There was a short discussion as to whether the Ambassador should be part of the Executive. Pete Kercher accepted the nomination and was elected. (1 abstention).

Avril Accola was proposed as Research Officer. She accepted the nomination and was elected. (18 in favour, 2 abstentions, 6 against).

Jesús Hernández Galán was proposed as Special Projects Officer, South and West Europe. He accepted the nomination by proxy and was elected. (20 in favour, 4 abstentions, 2 against)

Ilona Gurjanova was proposed as Special Projects Officer, Eastern and Central Europe. She accepted the nomination and was elected. (21 in favour, 5 abstentions)

Cearbhall O'Meadhra was proposed as Director at Large. He accepted the nomination by proxy and was unanimously elected.

Alexander Bogdanovic was proposed as Director at Large. He accepted the nomination by proxy and was elected. (21 in favour, 5 abstentions)

## **10. Matters for Discussion and Decision making**

### **10.1 Membership subscriptions 2012**

It was confirmed that subscriptions would be fixed at the 2011 level.

### **10.2 Budget 2012**

Finn Petren proposed that the Executive Board revises budget for presentation to members under exceptional circumstances.

### **10.3 Project Activities**

#### **10.3.1 Book Project (in partnership with Fundacion Once)**

Point of information: The project will soon be ready for launch and the preparation for the Call for Papers is underway.

#### **10.3.2 Competition (in partnership with Icograda and Cumulus)**

Point of information: The competition will not be immediately launched.

#### **10.3.3 Michal Ozmin Design for All Archive and Research Centre**

Point of information: The archive is up and running. A special thank you was made to all those who have contributed. Ewa Golebiowska reminded members to send items for the archive and the website.

## **11. Venue and date for the General Assembly 2012**

Sanna Simola proposed 18-19 May 2012 in Helsinki. This would take place between the Icograda and Cumulus congresses. She would speak to Onny Eikhaug to ensure that there would be no clash with the European Business Conference on Inclusive Design on 7-8 June in Oslo.

It was proposed that the next General Assembly would take place on 17 May in Helsinki with a conference following on 18, 19 May. Subsequently, these dates were fixed at 24 May for the conference and 25 May for the GA. The Executive Board will meet on 26 May.

## **12. Any other business**

Markus Haas noted that no further meeting between members was scheduled till the next General Assembly. He asked when network meetings could happen and suggested that a meeting should be arranged before then to keep up the momentum.

Josyane Franc asked if we could update our activities on the website using a blog.

Finn Petren and Pete Kercher suggested that members could take responsibility for organising informal networking meetings.

Francesc Aragall offered Barcelona as the venue for an informal meeting. Guida Faria noted that Portugal could also be a venue.

### **13. Closure**

The President Finn Petren closed the meeting at 17.40 and thanked the assembled members for their open attitude and commitment.